

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/538,550

Examiner

Michael W. Talbot

Applicant(s)

WALKER, ANDREW

Art Unit

3722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 02 July 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Monica S. Carter
MONICA CARTER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. W.R. Duke Taylor on Tuesday, 21 August 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims:

(a) Claim 1, last full paragraph, lines 14-18 have been changed from:

"an activation element, said activation element non-rotatably movable along the longitudinal axis for applying movement force to said conical jaw actuator so that no rotational movement occurs in said cylindrical member, plurality of jaws and conical jaw actuator in order to enable transitional movement of said plurality of jaws along the axis"

so as to read as follows:

--an activation element, said activation element non-rotatably movable along the longitudinal axis for applying movement force to said conical jaw actuator so that no rotational movement occurs in said activation element relative to said cylindrical member, plurality of jaws and conical jaw actuator during transitional movement of said plurality of jaws along the axis--.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-15 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 6 are the independent claims.

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3. Regarding claim 1, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious a drill/driver chuck having (1) "an activation element being non-rotatably movable along the longitudinal axis for applying movement force to said conical jaw actuator so that no rotational movement occurs in said activation element relative to said cylindrical member, plurality of jaws and conical jaw actuator during transitional movement", solely or in combination, with a drill/driver chuck having a cylindrical member having a central axial bore and a plurality of slanted bores with respect to the longitudinal axis, a plurality of jaws movable within the plurality of slanted bores, a conical jaw actuator coupled to the jaws via slots wherein movement of the jaw actuator is non-rotational in a direction along the axis which causes concomitant movement of the jaws in a radial direction, and an activation element coupled to the jaw actuator and movable on the cylindrical member along the longitudinal axis in order to apply movement force to the jaw actuator.

Schliep '732 is the closest art of record.

Schliep '732 shows in Figures 1-5 a drill/driver chuck comprising a cylindrical member (10), including a head (12) and a shaft (14), having a central axial bore (18) and a plurality of further bores (34) slanted with respect to the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 3, lines 36-41), a plurality of jaws (32) associated with a respective one of the further bores and movable there within, a jaw actuator (46) having a plurality of slots (56) coupled with each of the plurality of jaws (via 50,54) for moving the jaws within their respective further bores wherein movement of jaw actuator in a direction along the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 3, line 59-68) causes concomitant movement of the jaws within their respective slots in a radial direction with respect to the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 4, lines 1-14 and 54-68), and an activation element (40) coupled to the jaw actuator (via tongue 48 and groove 44 connection) movable along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator. Schliep '732 shows the drill/driver

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chuck characterized in that the cylindrical member, the plurality of jaws and the conical actuator do not rotate relative to one another to enable transitional movement along the axis (jaw actuator (46) is carried by the adjustable nut (40) through a tongue (48) and groove (44) connection allowing the jaw actuator to move/translate without rotation).

Schliep '732 lacks a drill/driver chuck having (1) "an activation element being non-rotatably movable along the longitudinal axis for applying movement force to said conical jaw actuator so that no rotational movement occurs in said activation element relative to said cylindrical member, plurality of jaws and conical jaw actuator during transitional movement".

Although it is well known to have an activation element coupled to the jaw actuator and being movable on the cylindrical member along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator, there is no teaching in the prior art of record that would, reasonably and absent impermissible hindsight, motivate one having ordinary skill in the art to so modify the teachings of Schliep '732, noting that in Schliep '732, the activation element is rotationally movable on the cylindrical member along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator. Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, the prior art of record neither anticipates nor rendered obvious the present invention as set forth in independent claim 1.

4. Regarding claim 6, the prior art of record fails to anticipate or make obvious a drill/driver chuck having (1) "a thrust plate non-rotatable relative to the cylindrical member during the movement", solely or in combination, with a drill/driver chuck having a cylindrical member having a central axial bore and a plurality of slanted bores with respect to the longitudinal axis, a plurality of jaws movable within the plurality of slanted bores, a conical jaw actuator coupled to the jaws via slots wherein movement of the jaw actuator is non-rotational in a direction along the axis which causes concomitant movement of the jaws in a radial direction, and a thrust plate

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coupled to the jaw actuator and movable on the cylindrical member along the longitudinal axis in order to apply movement force to the jaw actuator .

Schliep '732 is the closest art of record.

Schliep '732 shows in Figures 1-5 a drill/driver chuck comprising a cylindrical member (10), including a head (12) and a shaft (14), having a central axial bore (18) and a plurality of further bores (34) slanted with respect to the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 3, lines 36-41), a plurality of jaws (32) associated with a respective one of the further bores and movable there within, a jaw actuator (46) having a plurality of slots (56) coupled with each of the plurality of jaws (via 50,54) for moving the jaws within their respective further bores wherein movement of jaw actuator in a direction along the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 3, line 59-68) causes concomitant movement of the jaws within their respective slots in a radial direction with respect to the axis of the cylindrical member (col. 4, lines 1-14 and 54-68), and a thrust plate (40) coupled to the jaw actuator (via tongue 48 and groove 44 connection) movable along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator. Schliep '732 shows the chuck characterized in that the cylindrical member, the plurality of jaws and the conical actuator do not rotate relative to one another to enable transitional movement along the axis (jaw actuator (46) is carried by the adjustable nut (40) through a tongue (48) and groove (44) connection allowing the jaw actuator to move/translate without rotation).

Schliep '732 lacks a drill/driver chuck having (1) "a thrust plate non-rotatable relative to the cylindrical member during the movement".

Although it is well known to have a thrust plate coupled to the jaw actuator and being movable on the cylindrical member along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator, there is no teaching in the prior art of record that would, reasonably and absent impermissible hindsight, motivate one having ordinary skill in the art to so modify the teachings

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of Schliep '732, noting that in Schliep '732, the thrust plate is rotationally movable on the cylindrical member along a longitudinal axis to apply movement force to the jaw actuator. Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, the prior art of record neither anticipates nor rendered obvious the present invention as set forth in independent claim 6.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning the content of this communication from the examiner should be directed to Michael W. Talbot, whose telephone number is 571-272-4481. The examiner's office hours are typically 8:30am until 5:00pm, Monday through Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Mrs. Monica S. Carter, may be reached at 571-272-4475.

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, group 3720 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Actions directly into the Group at FAX number 571-273-8300. This practice may be used for filling papers not requiring a fee. It may also be used for filing papers, which require a fee, by applicants who authorize charges to a USPTO deposit account. Please identify Examiner Michael W. Talbot of Art Unit 3722 at the top of your cover sheet.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you

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would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



MWT
Examiner
21 August 2007


MONICA CARTER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER